

REMARKS

By the present paper, claims 1 and 6 are cancelled, claims 2 - 5 and 7-12 are amended, and new claims 13 and 14 are presented. Accordingly, claims 2-5 and 7 - 14 are in the Application. Entry of the new claims, entry of the claim amendments, and reconsideration of the Application are respectfully requested.

The Present Invention:

Applicants' inventive electronic sphygmomanometer is an uncomplicated device for use by more than one user and is ideally suited for home use by the elderly or infirm.

The device comprises two, three, or more preferentially illuminated separate individual-user identification keys or separate event keys. Each user (or event) has their own preferentially illuminated individual-user identification key, identified by a single alphanumeric character, color of illumination, or both.

The device includes a plurality of dedicated memory regions, one uniquely associated with each separate individually-user identification key (or separate event key as the case may be).

Manipulation of an individual-user identification key activates measurement of blood pressure and, in certain embodiments, activates the power supply. The plurality of event keys perform corresponding functions.

The New Claims:

Claim 13 replaces claim 1 and points-out with even greater particularity that the individual-user identification keys are singular - one separate key for each individual user - and that there is a separate light emitting means associate with each separate individual-user identification key.

New claim 13 clarifies still further that there is a memory region

associated with each individual-user identification key, an individual memory region being addressed in response to manipulation of an associated individual-user identification key.

Support for new claim 13 can be found in the specification at, for example, paragraphs [0009] through [0021] and Example 1.

New claim 13 is similar to new claim 13 except that separate event keys replace individual-user identification keys. Event keys are described in the specification at, for example, paragraph [0097].

The Claim Amendments:

Claims 2 - 5 are amended as required by cancellation of claim 1 and substitution of new claim 13 therefor. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in the claims as filed. Claim 5 is further amended as required by the Office Action.

Claims 7 - 11 are amended as required by cancellation of claim 6, now replaced with claim 14. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in the claims as filed. Claims 10 and 11 are further amended as required by the Office Action. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, at paragraph [0097].

Claim 12 is amended to render it with even greater particularity. Support for the claim amendment can be found in the specification at, for example, paragraph [0109].

Applicants respectfully submit that the claim amendments do not introduce new matter into the Application.

The Claim Objections:

Claims 5 and 10 were objected to for alleged grammatical defects. Applicants respectfully submit that the present claim amendments remove any basis for the objection that may have existed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112:

Claim 11 was rejected as allegedly indefinite. Applicants respectfully submit that the present claim amendments render the rejection moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 1 - 4, 6 - 9, and 11 were rejected as allegedly anticipated by Anthony-Euclid C. Villa-Real, United States Patent 4,397,317 ("Villa-Real"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants turn first to claim 1. Claim 13 replaces claim 1 to point out with even greater particularity that the individual-used identification keys are singular - one separate individual key per user - no code being required, a single manipulation (activation) suffices to identify the user to the controller and memory. Further, there is an light emitting means associated with each individual-used identification key. Manipulation of a key activates the associated light emitting means. New claim 13 further clarifies that there is a memory region associated with each individual-user identification key. Manipulation of the key causes engagement (addressing) of the associated memory region. Applicants respectfully submit that Villa-Real does not disclose these features.

Concerning claims 2 - 4, these depend from claims that, Applicants respectfully submit, contain patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims likewise include patentable subject matter.

Applicants turn next to claim 6. Claim 14 replaces claim 6 and renders the subject matter therein with even greater particularity for reasons that parallel those discussed in relation to claim 13. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 14 and all claims depending therefrom include patentable subject matter.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 5, 10, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly anticipated by Villa-Real in view of Hickie et al., published United States Patent Application 2003/0135087. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The patentability *vel non* of claims 5, 10, and 12 does not rise or fall with the particular claim elements or limitations introduced in these claims. Rather, these claims depend from claims that, Applicants respectfully submit, contain patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims likewise include patentable subject matter.

Conclusion:

Based on the forgoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are now in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys.


REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants respectfully request one month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. The fee of \$ 130.00 for the extension is provided for in the charge authorization presented in the PTO Form 2038, Credit Card Payment form, provided herewith.

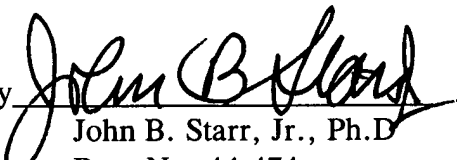
If there is any discrepancy between the fee(s) due and the fee payment authorized in the Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 or the Form PTO-2038 is missing or fee payment via the Form PTO-2038 cannot be processed, the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) or fee(s) deficiency or credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,

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